REGISTER when incorporated by reference therein with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register.

## § 502.5 Records generally available.

The Commission will make promptly available to any member of the public the following documents:

- (a) Proposed and Final Decisions (including dissenting opinions) and all orders made with respect thereto, except when exempted from public disclosure by statute;
- (b) Statements of policy and interpretations which have been adopted by the Commission which have not been published in the FEDERAL REGISTER; and
- (c) A current index, which will be updated at least quarterly, covering the foregoing material adopted, issued or promulgated after July 4, 1967. Publication of an index is deemed both unnecessary and impractical. However, copies of the index are available upon request for a fee of the direct cost of duplication.

## § 502.6 Current index.

The Commission will maintain and make available for public inspection and copying, current indexes providing identifying information for the public as to any matter issued, adopted, or promulgated after July 4, 1967, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(2).

# § 502.7 Additional documents and records generally available for inspection and copying.

The following types of documents are also available for inspection and copying in the offices of the Commission:

- (a) Rules of practice and procedure.
- (b) Annual report of the Commission to the Congress of the United States.
- (c) Bound volumes of Commission decisions.
- (d) International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, with amendments; the War Claims Act of 1948, with amendments; and related Acts.
- (e) Claims agreements with foreign governments effecting the settlement of claims under the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- (f) Press releases and other miscellaneous material concerning Commission operations.

(g) Indexes of claims filed in the various claims programs administered by the Commission.

## § 502.8 Documents on-line.

Commission documents available in electronic format may be accessed via the Commission's World Wide Web site, the address of which is <a href="http://www.usdoj.gov/fcsc">http://www.usdoj.gov/fcsc</a>.

## § 502.9 Effect of non-compliance.

No decision, statement of policy, interpretation, or staff manual or instruction that affects any member of the public will be relied upon, used, or cited as precedent by the Commission against any private party unless it has been indexed and either made available or published as provided by this part, or unless that private party has actual and timely notice of the terms thereof.

#### § 502.10 Availability of records.

- (a) Each person desiring access to a record covered by this part must comply with the following provisions:
- (1) A written request must be made for the record.
- (2) Such request must indicate that it is being made under the Freedom of Information Act.
- (3) The envelope in which the request is sent must be prominently marked with the letters "FOIA."
- (4) The request must be addressed to the appropriate official or employee of the Commission as set forth in paragraph (c) of this section.
- (5) The foregoing requirements must be complied with whether the request is mailed or hand-delivered to the Commission.
- (b) If the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section are not met, the twenty-day time limit described in §502.10(a) will not begin to run until the request has been identified by an official or employee of the Commission as a request under the Freedom of Information Act and has been received by the appropriate official or employee of the Commission.
- (c) Each person desiring access to a record covered in this part that is located in the Commission, or to obtain a copy of such a record, must make a written request to the Administrative Officer, Foreign Claims Settlement

## §502.11

Commission, 600 E Street NW, Room 6002, Washington, DC 20579.

- (d) Each request should reasonably describe the particular record requested. The request should specify the subject matter, the date when it was made and the person or office that made it. If the description is insufficient, the official or employee handling the request may notify the person making the request and, to the extent possible, indicate the additional data required.
- (e) Each record made available under this section is available for inspection and copying during regular working hours. Original documents may be copied but may not be released from custody.
- (f) Authority to administer this part in connection with Commission records is delegated to the Administrative Officer or the Commission employee acting in that official's capacity.

#### § 502.11 Actions on requests.

- (a) The Administrative Officer or any employee acting in that official's capacity will determine within twenty days (excepting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays) after the receipt of any a request whether to comply with the request. Upon receipt of a request for a Commission record which is available, the Administrative Officer or other employee will notify the requester as to the time the record is available, and will promptly make the record available after advising the requester of the applicable fees under §502.13. The person making the request will be notified immediately after any adverse determination, the reasons for making the adverse determination and the right of the person to appeal.
- (b) Any denial of a request for a record will be written and signed by the Administrative Officer or other employee, including a statement of the reason for denial. That statement will contain, as applicable:
- (1) A reference to the specific exemption under the Freedom of Information Act authorizing the withholding of a record, and to the extent consistent with the purpose of the exemption, an explanation of how the exemption applies to the record withheld.

- (2) If a record requested does not exist, or has been legally disposed of, the requester will be so notified.
- (c) In unusual circumstances, the time limit prescribed in paragraph (a) of this section may be extended by written notice to the person making the request setting forth the reasons for the extension and the date on which a determination is expected to be dispatched. No extension notice will specify a date that would result in an extension for more than twenty working days. As used in this paragraph, "unusual circumstances" means, but only to the extent reasonably necessary to the proper processing of the particular request—
- (1) The need to search for and collect the requested records from other establishments that are separate from the office processing the request;
- (2) The need to search for, collect, and appropriately examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records which are demanded in a single request; or
- (3) The need for consultation, which will be conducted with all practicable speed, with another agency having a substantial interest in the determination of the request or among two or more components of the agency having substantial subject-matter interest therein.

## § 502.12 Appeals.

- (a) Any person to whom a record has not been made available within the time limits established by paragraph (b) of §502.11, and any person who has been given an adverse determination pursuant to paragraph (b) of §503.10 of this chapter, that a requested record will not be disclosed, may apply to the Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530, for reconsideration of the request. The person making such a request will also be notified of the provisions for judicial review provided in 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(4).
- (b) Each application for reconsideration must be made in writing within sixty days from the date of receipt of the original denial and must include all information and arguments relied upon by the person making the request. The application must indicate that it is an